

South Dakota LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER

News Release

May 20, 2005

APRIL MEAT PRODUCTION UP FROM LAST YEAR

SIOUX FALLS, May 20, 2005 – Commercial red meat production for South Dakota totaled 76.2 million pounds during April. This was up 2 percent from one year ago but down 10 percent from last month, according to USDA's South Dakota Agricultural Statistics Office. For April, pork production and sheep and lamb production were up from one year ago.

Commercial hog slaughter for South Dakota totaled 360,300 head during April compared to 351,200 head last year. Average live weight was 265 pounds, which was up 5 pounds from April 2004.

Commercial sheep and lamb slaughter for South Dakota totaled 600 head during April, down 100 head from last year. Average live weight was 155 pounds, up 37 pounds from April 2004.

Commercial slaughter data for beef cattle is not published.

*The complete report can be accessed at www.usda.gov/nass/
or call Carter Anderson or Steve Noyes at
605-323-6500*